

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Farm Service Agency  
Washington, DC 20250

Notice DCP-9

**For:** State and County Offices

**Double-Cropping and Other Provisions**

**Approved by:** Acting Deputy Administrator, Farm Programs



**1 Overview**

**A  
Background**

Notice PF-181 provided guidance for updating acreage for acreage history purposes.

As a result of instructions in Notice PF-181, questions have been raised about double-cropping history rules and prevented planting rules.

**B  
Purpose**

This notice provides clarification of the following:

- what is considered double-cropping history
- evidence required for prevented planting
- crop additions for acreage history credit
- definition of covered commodities.

**2 Definitions**

**A  
Covered  
Commodities**

Covered commodities are wheat, corn, grain sorghum, barley, oats, upland cotton, rice, soybeans, canola, flax, mustard, rapeseed, safflower, and sunflowers.

For the purpose of this notice, peanuts will also be considered a covered commodity.

**Note:** Sesame and crambe are **not** eligible covered commodities.

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**Disposal Date**

December 1, 2002

**Distribution**

State Offices; State Offices relay to County Offices

## 2 Definitions (Continued)

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### B

#### **Double-Cropped Acreage**

Approved double-cropping occurs when both of the following are met:

- the specific combination of covered commodities is approved by STC according to subparagraph 3 B
- 2 different covered commodities can be planted and harvested on the same acreage in the same crop year under normal growing conditions.

**Note:** One or both of the covered commodities could have been prevented from planting and/or failed as long as both of the covered commodities had reasonable expectations and realistic possibilities of reaching maturity and being harvested within the same crop year under normal growing conditions.

**Example 1:** Producer A plants and harvests 100 acres of wheat. On the same 100 acres within the same crop year, Producer A plants and harvests 100 acres of soybeans. Wheat followed by soybeans on the same acreage was a specific combination recommended by COC and approved by STC according to paragraph 3. Therefore, this example meets the double-cropping provisions.

**Example 2:** Producer B plants 100 acres of wheat. The wheat fails because of drought. Producer B plants the same 100 acres to soybeans later in the same crop year. The soybeans fail because of flooding. Wheat followed by soybeans on the same acreage was a combination recommended by COC and approved by STC according to paragraph 3. Therefore, this example meets the double-cropping provisions.

**Example 3:** Producer C is prevented from planting 100 acres of wheat because of flooding. Producer C is prevented from planting the same 100 acres to soybeans later in the same crop year because of flooding. Wheat followed by soybeans on the same acreage was a combination recommended by COC and approved by STC according to paragraph 3. Therefore, this example meets the double-cropping provisions.

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### 2 Definitions (Continued)

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#### B

##### **Double-Cropped Acreage (Continued)**

**Example 4:** Producer D plants 100 acres of wheat. The wheat fails because of drought. On the same 100 acres, Producer D plants and harvests 100 acres of soybeans. Wheat followed by soybeans on the same acreage was a combination recommended by COC and approved by STC according to paragraph 3. Therefore, this example meets the double-cropping provisions.

**Example 5:** Producer E plants 100 acres of wheat. The wheat fails because of drought. On the same 100 acres, Producer E plants and harvests 100 acres of corn. Wheat followed by corn on the same acreage was **not** approved by STC according to paragraph 3. Therefore, this example does **not** meet the double-cropping provisions.

**Example 6:** Producer F plants and harvests 100 acres of soybeans. On the same 100 acres, Producer F plants 100 acres of corn that fail because of freeze. Soybeans followed by corn on the same acreage was **not** approved by STC according to paragraph 3. Therefore, this example does **not** meet the double-cropping provisions.

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#### C

##### **County Office Action**

County Office shall complete the steps outlined in this notice according to the following table.

**Note:** All of the actions in this table shall be completed by July 15, 2002.

County Offices shall make necessary revisions to FSA-578 to ensure accurate acreage data. If an obvious error is detected, County Offices shall make corrections.

Step	Action
1	COC shall submit to STC, recommendations of specific combinations of covered commodities that meet the double cropping definition according to subparagraph B.
2	STC shall review and approve or disapprove COC recommendations.
3	County Office shall revise FSA-578's according to subparagraph 6 D based on STC approvals.
4	COC shall approve prevented planted acreage according to paragraph 5.
5	County Office shall load approved prevented planting acreage on FSA-578.
6	County Office shall determine whether all types of dual purpose sorghum are reported under the correct crop code and make the necessary revisions according to subparagraph 6 C.

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### 2 Definitions (Continued)

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#### C

##### **Prevented Planted Acreage**

Prevented planting occurs when a crop cannot be planted during the established planting period for the crop because of natural disaster. For the purpose of calculating the 1998 through 2001 planted and prevented planted acreage for the establishment of a Direct and Counter-Cyclical Program (DCP) base, a producer must be able to prove the intended planted acreage of the crop for each applicable crop year 1998 through 2001 to COC's satisfaction.

COC's are authorized to approve prevented planted acreage for the applicable "covered commodities" as identified in subparagraph A, for any of the years 1998 through 2001.

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### 3 Establishing Double-Cropping Commodities

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#### A

##### **COC Recommendations**

COC shall submit to STC recommendations of specific combinations of covered commodities that can meet the definition of double-cropping according to paragraph 2.

COC supporting documentation shall include the following:

- length of growing season and moisture requirements required to produce the recommended covered commodities
  - documentation of rainfall amounts normally received in the county during the growing season for each covered commodity
  - irrigation requirements, if any
  - RMA- or COC-established final planting date for each covered commodity
  - COC-established normal harvest date for each covered commodity.
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#### B

##### **STC Action**

STC shall review and approve or disapprove COC-recommended specific combinations of covered commodities based on the data submitted by COC.

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#### 4 Exception for Establishing Double-Cropping Commodities

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##### A

##### Exception

There may be some cases where a producer has a verifiable record of double-cropping a specific combination of covered commodities that were either of the following:

- **not** recommended by COC
- **not** approved by STC.

At the request of the producer, those cases shall be reviewed by STC on a case-by-case basis. STC may approve the specific combination of covered commodities for that particular producer only if the following requirements are met:

- producer provides verifiable and documentable proof that the specific covered commodities have been successfully planted **and harvested** on the same acreage in the same crop year in at least 2 of the 4 crop years 1998 through 2001

**Note:** If 1 or both of the covered commodities were prevented planted or failed, this exception does **not** apply.

- for crops requiring irrigation, evidence must be provided to show that the specific covered commodities planted and harvested were irrigated.
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## 5 Prevented Planted Acreage

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### A

#### **Eligible Prevented Planted Acreage - FSA and RMA Records Exist**

For the 1998 through 2001 crops years, prevented planted acreage for late-filed acreage reports must be reviewed and approved by COC for each FSA farm and tract based on the 2002 farm structure.

If there is FSA-578 or FSA-578D on file for prevented planted acreage, COC may consider the crop already approved for history purposes.

**Note:** The only time COC may get involved is if they doubt the existence of the prevented planted acreage. For example, this was the only producer in the county with prevented planted corn. COC shall then request additional information from the producer.

The approval must be crop specific for the purpose of calculating the “covered commodity” crop bases.

In cases where COC determines acceptable prevented planting records exist through FSA, RMA, or reinsured insurance company records, COC shall approve the producer’s requested acreage. COC shall use records in the following order when approving prevented planted acreage:

- prevented planted acreage reported to FSA on FSA-578D or the aerial photograph providing the specific crop acreage is identified by crop and tract

**Note:** In some cases, the County Office loaded the prevented planted acreage into the software as fallow, but indicated the correct acreage on the aerial photograph.

- prevented planted acreage reported by a producer to either RMA or a reinsured insurance company on the crop insurance acreage report providing the specific crop acreage can be identified by crop and tract

**Note:** The producer must provide proof of insurance acreage report.

- prevented planted acreage paid by either RMA or a reinsured insurance company providing the specific crop acreage can be identified by crop and tract. The producer must provide proof of insurance acreage report.

**Note:** COC’s have authority to use records other than RMA- or reinsured insurance company-paid prevented planted acreage if there is evidence to support a different crop was intended to be planted, but was limited by RMA’s acreage history rule.

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## 5 Prevented Planted Acreage (Continued)

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### B

#### **Eligible Prevented Planted Acreage - No FSA or RMA Records Exist**

Situations will apply where the requested prevented planted crop acreage credit cannot be approved using the records identified in subparagraph A. These requests shall be:

- reviewed by COC for each of the 1998 through 2001 crop years
- limited to the least of the following:
  - prevented planted acres reported for the crop
  - acres of cropland on the farm minus the sum of all crops planted acres, perennial forage crops, normal fallow acreage, and any other crop-approved prevented planting acres
  - maximum acreage planted to the crop during any 1 of the previous 4 crop years as documented on a previous FSA-578 or RMA acreage report, less the acreage planted to that crop in the year for which prevented planted is requested.

**Example:** In this example, the producer is proving prevented planted corn for crop year 1999.

In the first bullet, the producer is reporting 100 acres of prevented planted for crop year 1999.

In the second bullet, the cropland equals 250 acres, minus planted of 200, which gives a difference of 50 acres.

In the third bullet, the maximum planted in any of the previous 4 years, 1995 through 1999 was 80 acres in 1997.

The instruction is to take the lesser of. The lesser of is 50; therefore, the producer would get credit of 50 acres of corn for crop year 1999.

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## Notice DCP-9

### 5 Prevented Planted Acreage (Continued)

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#### C

##### Special Cases

COC has the authority to approve prevented planted crop history from 1998 through 2001 if the prevented crop acreage was approved on the tract for a producer other than the current producer.

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#### D

##### Prevented Planted Acreage Not Covered

Prevented planting coverage is **not** provided for any prevented planted acreage of the crop:

- that is used for conservation purposes, such as normal fallow acreage, perennial forage acreage, or acreage intended to be left unplanted under any USDA program
- that exceeds the eligible prevented planted acres
- for which the producer cannot provide proof, if required by COC, that he or she had the inputs, such as seed, chemical, and fertilizer, available to plant and produce a crop with the expectation of at least producing a normal yield.

**Note:** The minimum size requirement of 20 acres or 20 percent does **not** apply to prevented planted crop acreage approvals for this purpose.

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## Notice DCP-9

### 6 Clarifying Other Provisions

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#### A

##### Crop Additions for Acreage History Credit

The following crop types have been added to be eligible for acreage history credit.

Crop Year	Crop Code	Crop Name	Type Abbr	Type Name	Intended Use
1998 1999 2000	0051	Grain Sorghum	COE	Coes	FG, GC, GR, GZ, HG, HY, PP, SD, SG
			SHA	Shallu	FG, GC, GR, GZ, HG, HY, PP, SD, SG
	0081	Soybeans	EDA	Edaname	Blank, GR, HY, SD, SG
			LER	Lerado	Blank, GR, HY, SD, SG
2001	0081	Soybeans	EDA	Edaname	FG, GR, GZ, SD
			LER	Lerado	FG, GR, GZ, SD

#### B

##### Crops Coded as Mixed Forage

Crops planted as a mixed forage are **not** eligible for acreage history credit.

**Example:** Peas/oats mixture reported under crop code 0296, Mixed Forage, are **not** eligible for acreage history credit.

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#### C

##### Grain Sorghum

Grain sorghum eligible for acreage history credit is limited to those types eligible for price support according to Notice LP-1834. Those types of grain sorghum should be reported under crop code 0051. If a type of sorghum is eligible for price support and was reported under crop code 0050, it must be revised to crop code 0051, Grain Sorghum.

**Note:** If a NAP policy has been taken on these types of sorghum forage (0050) that are being revised to grain sorghum (0051) and it was insurable, any NAP payments made will have to be repaid.

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## Notice DCP-9

### 6 Clarifying Other Provisions (Continued)

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#### D

##### When to Use Status Codes “S” and “D”

According to subparagraph 3 A, COC has been instructed to submit to STC recommendations of specific combinations of covered commodities that can meet the double-cropped definition. Once this determination has been made and approved by STC, County Offices shall revise acreage in the following situations:

- if the crop does **not** meet the STC-approved double-cropping definition, the status code for the second crop shall be “S”
  - if the crop does meet the STC-approved double-cropping definition, the status code for the second crop shall be “D”.
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#### E

##### Crops Reported With a Status Code of “R”

Repeat crops are when a second planting of the same crop is planted on the same acreage. The crop is considered repeat, if the crop can be planted, harvested, and replanted in a 12-month period. Repeat crops shall be counted toward the acreage history credit.

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